



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Jeffrey A. Anderson                      Art Unit : 3635  
Serial No. : 10/633,694                                  Examiner : Jeanette E. Chapman  
Filed : August 5, 2003  
Title : METAL FRAMING MEMBER AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURE

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REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION DATED OCTOBER 20, 2005

Applicant submits the following remarks in response to the Office Action dated April 15, 2005. Claims 1, 3-15, 17-30, 32-34, 36-51, 53 and 54 are pending.<sup>1</sup>

Claims 1, 3-15, 17-30, 32-34, 36-51, 53 and 54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,605,024 to Sucato et al. ("Sucato") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,913,788 to Herren ("Herren") and U.S. Patent No. 5,527,625 to Bodnar ("Bodnar"). Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection. Claims 1, 17, 27, 42, 53 and 54 are independent.

**I. Sucato, Herren and Bodnar, alone and in combination, fail to teach or suggest a plurality of reinforcements including a dart or dimple proximate to the web slots.**

Applicant has discovered a metal framing member including a formed metal sheet including a plurality of expanded web slots including voids and metal web elements in a region of the formed metal sheet, wherein the region includes a plurality of reinforcements including a dart or dimple proximate to the web. See claims 1, 27, and 42. The Examiner states that "from the secondary references of Bodnar and Herren, it is clear that both, dimples and reinforcements, may be included with the slots." See page 4 of the Office Action. However, the combined references fail to teach all elements of claims 1, 27, and 42.

Sucato fails to teach or suggest a plurality of reinforcements including a dart or dimple proximate to the web slots. As described in Sucato, "FIG. 22 is a cross sectional view of FIG. 21

<sup>1</sup> Applicants note that claim 35 was cancelled in the previous amendment.